

King County Sammamish Valley Area Winery Study
Stakeholder Meeting #1
Thursday, April 7, 2016

Meeting Summary

Stakeholder Attendance:

Roger Porter, Cherry Valley Winery
Mayor Bernie Talmas, City of Woodinville
Greg Lill, Delille Cellars
Carrie Alexander, Force Majeure Winery
Bryce Yadon, Futurewise
Ron Baum, Hollywood Hills Association
Roger Calhoon, King County Agriculture Commission
Tom Quigley, Sammamish Valley Alliance
Carol Munro, Ste. Michelle Wine Estates

Lori Peckol for Rob Odle, City of Redmond
Laurie Cook for Dave Witt, Greater Woodinville Chamber of Commerce

Initial Stakeholder Comments:

The following represents themes, issues and ideas mentioned by stakeholders during our initial group activity:

- Need to preserve the aesthetics of the Sammamish Valley
- Distinguish the differences between: vineyard, production, and retail operations
- Need to understand the pressures facing the Sammamish Valley
- Need to consider the whole picture and the entire Sammamish Valley experience beyond wine
- Keep all – ensure compatible uses; balance the uses
- Manage the growth of the industry and the negative impacts such as parking and transportation circulation
- Recognize the working farms – tractors/trucks coming and going
- Need land for agricultural support services
- Synergy between the wine industry and for agriculture
- Opportunity for more partnerships between agriculture uses and restaurants (farm to table)
- Solutions for the Sammamish Valley should be considered for carry-over to the other areas where wine and agriculture overlap
- Looking for predictability for wineries
- Need to keep the working farms

- Maintain and improve the general quality of life for the residents of the rural area
- Highlight tourism and hospitality opportunities and the broader experience for visitors
- Need to distinguish between tasting rooms and wineries

Information needed/questions raised

The following questions and issues arose during the meeting and represent guidance for further analysis and discussion:

- What do the farmers need to be viable?
- What does the wine industry need?
- How can we support the wine industry without negatively impacting the farmers?
- What is the regulatory structure?
- What are the allowable uses on agriculture land?
- What uses can be done as a “home occupation?”
- Develop a “how-to” brochure for winery production facilities and tasting rooms
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Themes/Focus Areas:

The following themes represent overall topic areas that the stakeholder group discussed:

- Define the study area
- Accommodate growth of the wine industry within the City of Woodinville
- Preserve and protect the agricultural lands and the rural area
- Identify the character and ambience of the area
- Address traffic and circulation; explore transit opportunities and bike-share
- Maintain and improve the general quality of life for the residents of the rural area
- Highlight tourism and hospitality opportunities